

Vidor, Texas 1/12/80
12/21/75

Bridge City 12/7/80

Anahuac, TX 11/10/91 8/18/02
8/29/99

Better Way of Life

THE BETTER WAY OF LIFE

Introduction:

1. The supreme issue of life is not how long one lives, but how well one lives.
2. Heb 10:16-22--Christ offers a new and living way, etc.
3. We desire the Better Way of life in Physical realm.
Also in educational realm.
4. OBEEDIENCE is the BETTER WAY: (Solomon) *this is the conclusion to the whole matter - Fear God + wholeheartedly*
Ecc. 12:13--Conclusion of whole matter - *Keep His commandments*
Heb 5:8-9; Rev. 22:14; Mt 7:24ff - *HEARS + DO THE COMMANDMENTS*
(FOOLISH BUILDER
WISE BUILDER)

OBEEDIENCE IS BETTER

1. Sacrifice and self-denial are necessary--Rom 12:1; Mt 16:24 *If am man would come after me, take up cross*

OBEEDIENCE IS BETTER--1 Sam 15:22--Saul and Amalekites-Agag.
Beobedience is better than sacrifice

2. Obedience is better than FAITH ALONE:

- (1) Cannot obey without faith--Heb 11:6
- (2) Must have obedient faith--Rom 1:5; 16:25-26
- (3) Justified by works, not by faith only--Jas 2:24
- (4) Obedience is faith working--this avails--Gal 3:12; 5:6

3. Obedience is better than FAMILY CONNECTIONS:

Jews claimed greatness because of Abraham--Mt 3:9, Jn 8:39
NOW, obedient ones are true children of Abraham--Gal 3:26-29
Rom 2:28-29--inwardly, *not 15:38-39*

4. Obedience is better than PLEASURE:

Heb 11:25-30--Moses
This life is fleeting, momentary; not lasting;

5. Obedience is better than PRETENSION; SHAM;

Mt 7:21-23; Jas 2:10
No place in God's family for sham; pretense; hypocrisy.

6. Obedience is better than WEALTH:

Lk 16:19ff--Rich man and Lazarus.

7. Obedience is better than MORALITY:

Cornelius--Acts 10
Not immorality

EXAMPLES OF OBEEDIENCE:

Abel--Gen 4: -- Heb 11:4 - *Choose the better way*
"OFFERED"

Abraham's call and offering of Isaac--Gen 12:22

Moses and call of Israelites--Red Sea--Exa 14:10-30

Prayer must be tied to obedience:

Would be sin to pray and not to act. *Jn 5:14 according to his will*

God has always blessed man when obedient;
condemned man when disobedient: *Mark 16:16*

In 5:3 - LOVE OF GOD

KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS

WHICH COMMANDMENTS?

In 2:3 - KEEP

ALL

Christ spoke { John 8:24 - Believe
Luke 13:5 - Repent
Mark 16:16 - Baptism